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Published every Saturday by John Mitchell, Jr., proprietor, at 218 E. Broad St., Richmond, Va.

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**SATURDAY, MARCH 6 897.**

JOHN MITCHELL, JR., Editor.

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**SATURDAY, MARCH 6 897.**

It is President McKinley this morning. Now for prosperity.

The Arbitration Treaty between England and this country has been "put to sleep."

There are several senators on the Republican side of the Senatorial Chamber, busily engaged in grinding their axes.

Hayne in the Senate was necessary, and will do towards bringing the present administration to a successful close.

PRESIDENT MCKINLEY is an ardent advocate of Civil Service Reform. This is unwelcome news to the "original McKinley men."

We are confident that Consul General Lee will not pay his respects to either Mr. CLEVELAND or Mr. OLNEY upon his return to this country.

SECRETARY OLNEY has made a most brilliant record as a skilled diplomat. The duties of his office have been discharged with consummate ability.

We return thanks for the invitation received to attend the Anniversary Exercises of Rev. G. W. Goode, B. D., Danville, Va., at Calvary Baptist Church.

PAOP. ISAAC H. SMITH of Newbern, N. C., insists that he can efficiently discharge the duties of Recorder of Deeds of the District of Columbia. We believe so, too.

PRESIDENT MCKINLEY will be unhampered in his work of reform, if we are to judge by the signs of the times. Returning prosperity will mean a second term for him.

GREYER will be forced to abide the decision of the Powers, and all talk to the contrary is the veriest nonsense. Turkish diplomacy was too much for Grecian shrewdness.

The national government has done nothing to check lynching. The state governments in many instances have been active in their efforts to check the evil.

The Spanish Government would find it a paying investment to get rid of Cuba, if we are to judge by the expense of suppressing the present insurrection.

It now remains to be seen whether Mr. SHERMAN's success as the Secretary of the Treasury in years past, and gone will be equalled by his management of the State Department.

The Committee on Retrenchment and Reform seems to have struck a snag and is taking long draughts of air before making another sweeping reduction.

The Richmond Division is not now in favor of a constitutional convention. This is the first good reason we have seen advanced of why colored folks should be in favor of it.

We return thanks to Friendship Lodge, No. 8846 G. O. U. O. F., for the invitation to attend their Annual Supper at Odd Fellows Hall, 3rd street Wednesday, March 3d, 1897.

COLORED people are taking but little interest in the question of holding a constitutional convention.

If any method of robbery can beat that which is in vogue at present, we shall like to see it put in operation.

gave it utterance. It would be better to extend it, if we are to judge by the quantity of work now being accomplished.

We return thanks to the Omaha Inaugural Ball at Morand's Dancing Academy, 15th and Hanney Sts., Omaha, Neb.

THE JACKSON, TENN., INDEX is now an eight page journal, and gives evidences of its material progress.

We congratulate the management upon its success. C. H. PHILLIPS, D. D., is the able editor.

THE WILSON TARIFF LAW enacted by the Democrats has produced a total deficit of (\$131,180,171) one hundred and thirty-one million, one hundred and thirty thousand and one hundred and seventy-one dollars in two years and a half. No wonder the people welcomed the return of the Republican Party to power.

The confirmation of the reports that Consul General FURNACE has called for warships, while making demands upon both the Spanish and the home government is as surprising from a diplomatic standpoint of view as it was unusual. Still, he was on the ground and may have been better able to judge the necessities of the situation than any one else.

The Danville, N. Y., ADVERTISER proposes the name of Judge ALFRED W. TOWNSEND for appointment to a consulate in England.

This would be a fitting recognition of his services. He would fill such a position with credit to himself and honor to the administration.

We trust that his friends may be forward in pressing his claims, and that Mr. MCKINLEY may not be slow in appointing him.

The Democratic League for Good Government is pursuing a policy designed to produce a revolution in the city's affairs. The effects from which we are now suffering is the result of a combination of pernicious legislation. Of course the reduction of the salaries of the city officials is a popular measure.

It remains to be seen whether enough can be saved by this process to do away with the necessity of a reduction of expenses.

The office-holding classes have pursued a policy which has tended to estrange the people from the government. It is an inconvenience to which they may be put is deserved.

It is evident that the elimination of the Republican Party in city politics has resulted in the establishment of another far more dangerous to the regular Democratic machine than any organization which its political antagonists could have brought into existence.

So far as our people are concerned, it is apparent that they will be radically divided in their exercise of the franchise as the Democrats are, individual preference for individual white men being the paramount purpose so far as their action is concerned.

MR. CLEVELAND'S REASONS.

PRESIDENT CLEVELAND vetoed the immigration bill and in his message enunciates a doctrine sound in every particular and thoroughly in accord with what we have time and again stated concerning our people. He says:

"In my opinion, it is infinitely more safe to admit a hundred thousand immigrants who, though unable to read and write, seek among us only a home and opportunity to work, than to admit one of those unscrupulous agitators and enemies of our country, who cannot only read and write, but delight in arousing by inflammatory speech the passions and prejudices of the masses, and who are inclined to discontent and tumult."

The above is admirably stated. And again:

"Violence and disorder do not originate with illiterate laborers. They are rather the victims of the educated agitators. The ability to read and write, as required in this bill, in itself affords, in my opinion, a misleading test of educated industry, and the quality of the character of the citizenry of a proper appreciation of the benefits of our institutions. If any particular element of our illiterate immigration is to be feared for other causes than illiteracy, these causes should be dealt with directly, instead of making illiteracy the pretext for exclusion of other illiterate immigrants, against whom the real cause of complaint cannot be alleged."

It has been practically demonstrated that the most dangerous criminal classes are those best skilled in the arts and sciences. It stands to reason that that education is an unsafe test of the capability of a person to exercise the rights of citizenship. "Worth makes the man, and the lack of it the fellow."

The industrious tax-paying classes are more qualified to express an opinion as to the proper course for the government to pursue, and the better elements to administer its affairs than the dishonest man, who secured an education at the expense of the hard-fisted sons of toil whom he ignores and despises.

ST. LOUIS, February 26th.—Inspector William H. Williams, of the St. Louis Police Department, is suffering from a severe attack of what physicians diagnose as the grip; but whatever the ailment, the officer declares that it is his last sickness, and that when he again leaves the Four Courts Building (police headquarters), it will be in a coffin that he has caused to be prepared borne by four men whom he has already designated as pall-bearers.

Among the ill-fated are worn strange incidents connected with spiritualistic manifestations. Two weeks ago Mr. Williams was well and strong. One day he said to Detective Smith: "I feel as if I were a warning last night, and I know that it will come true."

The detective laughed at him, but a few days later noticed that his friend's face was growing pale and that his hands trembled. Four days ago the inspector called Smith one side and said: "James, I have received my second warning. Then, with perspiration standing in beads on his forehead, he told the following story:—

"About 1 o'clock this morning I was awakened by the clanking of chains. I was not dreaming, I know, for I sat up in bed, pinched myself and felt the pain. A moment later a figure in a white apartment in the Four Courts Building, and the same voice I heard on night before exclaimed: 'Prepare for death; you are about to be numbered with the dead.' Then the figure vanished. The face was that of Matron Harris, who died a month ago."

Williams, who is a bachelor, has living apartments in the Four Courts Building. The story became noised about and the reporters commenced to gush the inspector. But after one or two attempts they desisted, for the

man showed him to be greatly impressed by the affair. Yesterday Williams was seized with a high fever and to-day he is much worse. To a reporter he said this afternoon: "I believe this is the beginning of the end."

The inspector has placed an order for a coffin, with an undertaker; he has made a will and Detective Smith has a list of the men whom the inspector wishes to bear his body to the grave.

POKEY BARNES IN HARTFORD.

Hundreds Welcome Her to the Capital City and Shed Tears When They Hear Her Lecture—A Collection for Her Child.

HARTFORD, Conn., February 28, '97. Mrs. Poky Barnes—Wormer, the ex-Lunenburg prisoner arrived in this city last Thursday at 12:05 p. m. She was met at the Union Railroad station by Mr. G. Grant Williams, Jr., escorted her to the state capital, where she saw many sights. She spent a few days in Hartford, and then, representatives, viewed the historic battle flags, and the Harriet Beecher Stowe statue. At the Senate Court room she was introduced to Captain Williams who is in charge of that department. Before leaving the capital she registered at the Hotel Stratford, and then, after which she was escorted to the residence of Mr. and Mrs. William Shields of Fairmont street, and was their guest during her stay in the capital city.

Mr. G. Grant Williams engaged Mrs. Wormer to lecture at the Union Baptist Church, February 25th, upon the Lunenburg murder case. He had bills in every corner of the city and before 7 o'clock Thursday evening people were coming from all directions, and at 8 p. m. the church was crowded.

Rev. Anderson delivered a brief opening address, after which a prayer by brother Epps; then the choir sang. During the singing Mr. G. Grant Williams escorted Mrs. Poky Barnes to her seat upon the altar, and many who were sitting near Mrs. Poky were surprised, as they had no idea that she was or had been sitting so near.

At 9 o'clock, Rev. Anderson introduced Miss Poky. The hearty greeting and applause that Miss Barnes received, and the cheering and her happy face the remainder of her stay, Miss Barnes stood at the right of the altar, sat in a neat fitting, changeable silk gown and wore a black veil, trimmed with black velvet and ostrich plumes.

THE AMERICAN NILE.

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